

THE
SECOND PART
OF THE
Fortunate Transport.

Being a CONTINUATION of the
LADY's ADVENTURES,
From the Time of her Arrival in
ENGLAND, to her Death ;

Including the FAMOUS STORY of the
GOLD WATCH.

By the AUTHOR *of the* FIRST PART.

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THE
SECOND PART

OF THE
Fortunes of Transjordan

Part a Collection of the
ADAMS
From the 17th of her Arrival in
her Days
Including the History of the



GOLD WATCH

By AUTHORITY

LONDON
Printed by T. T.
Of which may be seen

THE
SECOND PART
OF THE
Fortunate Transport, &c.

IN the First Part of this History, the Reader has seen how many various Events contributed to the Advancement of our *Transport*. We have seen Honours, Wealth and Plenty the Reward of Vice, Folly and Ingratitude. But Providence is too just to permit such Wickedness to go unpunished, or Vice to remain always triumphant. For Reasons inscrutable to short-sighted Mortals, the Order of Things may seem for some Time inverted, and Effects, contradictory of their Causes, may be produced to answer the wise Purposes of the

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sovereign Disposer of all Things ; but in the winding up of the Scene, either here or hereafter, we may rest absolutely satisfied, that Misery and Unhappiness is the constant Result of Vice and Folly. The Wicked may prosper in their worldly Concerns ; they may by their Crimes raise themselves to the highest Pitch of human Grandeur, but they are never out of the Reach of Providence, or elevated above the Stroke of Divine Justice, which sooner or later must overtake them, and bury all their ill-got Acquisitions in Shame and Confusion. And happy for them it is, when they feel that Reverse of Fortune on this Side the Grave, as by it they may be brought to a Sense of their Folly, and a sincere Repentance, which in Charity we are obliged to believe was the Case of our once Fortunate Transport ; for the Reader will find by the Sequel, that Adversity, after such a full Tide of Prosperity, awakened in her a Sense of her Guilt, which she must otherwise have been a Stranger to. We shall see her stripp'd of all her Wealth, and reduced to the lowest Misery, and in the end enjoying a Calm of Mind, which nothing but a hearty Compunction for her past Crimes could produce ; from whence, this Lesson may be learned, that Affliction and Adversity can humble the proudest Mind, and is generally the best and surest Means of converting the most obdurate Heart : But to proceed.

Mrs.

Mrs. B—n after the Death of her last Husband, having settled her Affairs in the Island of *Jamaica*, thought of returning to her native Country, which she longed to see again ; for there she thought the Affair of her Transportation was quite forgot, and the Splendor she was now able to appear in, and the many worthy Families to whom she was ally'd by Marriage, might be able to silence all Suspicion of her former Transactions. Her maiden Name was known to none of her Family, for she had given out at her coming to *Jamaica*, that she was born of *Dutch* Parents, and had no Relation in *England* but an Aunt of her Mother, who had dy'd before she left the Country.

She gave out, that her Father having lost the greatest Part of his Fortune by Casualties in Trade, had retired from his native Country to *Surinam*, one of the *Dutch* Settlements, when she was very young. That she lived for some Years in that Island in a pretty prosperous Manner ; but dying, left her and her little Fortune to the Guardianship of an *English* Gentleman, who had been Partner with him in Trade for a Year or two before his Death. Her Guardian lived some Years longer at *Surinam*, but finding the Profit of his Traffic not answerable to his Expence or Expectation, he removed him-

self, his Family, Effects, and Ward to *Virginia*, where he married her to Capt. * * * * * her first Husband.

This was the Account she gave of herself in *Jamaica*, which was easily credited, especially as there was no Body, since the Captain was dead, who could contradict it, but her Maid *Mathews*, whom her Bounty bound to perpetual Silence while she lived ; and after her Death, she was under the Dread of a Discovery, so that she set out from *Jamaica* with all her moveable Effects, about the Beginning of the Year 1718, and after a short and easy Passage arrived in the River *Thames* (about thirty Years after her Transportation) in a Situation quite different from that in which she left the same Place.

However, the Appearance of those Objects, the Sight of which she had so long sigh'd for, renew'd in her Mind the Idea of her former Misery, and gave a Damp to the Joy she felt at the Sight of her native Soil. Her Imprisonment in *Newgate*, her Pregnancy by the Turnkey, the Shame and Confusion she felt at being link'd in a Chain when she was put on board a Lighter, the Horror she conceived at going a-board the Transport at *Gravesend*, with the Miseries that followed during her seven Years Slavery, came all fresh into her Memory on Sight of the River, and she

she trembled when she set Footing on Shore, with the dreadful Thought, that all who saw her knew her Story, and were ready to insult her, as they did when she went aboard. Such is the Effect of conscious Guilt, that no Length of Time can efface it from the Memory, or hinder that watchful Monitor, our Conscience, from upbraiding us with our Faults.

The Confusion Mrs. B — *n* was in when she landed, which happened to be at the Ferry Stairs which she had taken Boat at, about thirty Years before, in a far different Equipage, was visible to all the Company, tho' they could not guess the Cause. She had been perfectly well all the Voyage, and extremely facetious; but all of a sudden, on her passing *Long-Reach* in a Barge belonging to a Merchant to whom her Effects were consigned, she grew melancholy, and remained speechless; but on the Sight of the Stairs she was to land at, a Thought suddenly struck her in the Head, that her Correspondent knew her Story, and had landed her there on purpose to affront her, and put her in mind of what she wish'd herself, and all the World, could bury in eternal Oblivion. This Fancy possessed her so strongly, she could not refrain from bursting into Tears, and was a thousand Times about to expostulate with the Gentleman who was with her, on his barbarous Insult

sult, as she thought it. She would certainly have betrayed herself, had her Tears and Passion allow'd her the Power of Utterance ; but struggling with these, threw her into a fainting Fit, out of which being recovered, she had Time to recollect herself, and some faint Hopes occurred that all might be accident. She landed, and was conducted to the Merchant's House, where, in a few Hours, she became a little more compos'd ; but still continued to have a prodigious Oppression upon her Spirits, and a Distrust of every thing. She could not hear of a Person named as a Transport (which might frequently happen when talking of *America*) especially of the Female Kind, but she fancied the Speech was meant by some Innuendo to affront her, and not a Circumstance could be mentioned of the *Old-Baily* Trials, especially if a *Watch* was at the end of it, but she was seized with Fits of the Mother ; so strongly had the Sight of *London*, the Scene of her Misfortunes, wrought upon her Imagination. However, as Time makes all Things familiar to us, even Objects the most shocking, a few Years, and the great Respect her Wealth created her, restored her to some Measure of Tranquility.

She lay that Night at her Merchant's House, that which was taken for her not being fitted up. She went to bed with her Spirits loaded with Vexation, tho' she endeavoured

vouted to conceal it as much as possible, and it was some Hours before she could get any Rest. At last, falling into a kind of Slumber, she fancied she was raised to the Top of a very high Mountain, surrounded with rugged Cliffs and dreadful Precipices, and over-looking a dismal Valley over-run with Thorns, and inhabited by wild Beasts, whose dreadful Yells were made still more hideous by the Echo from the Rocks which environ'd the Mountain. She thought the Summit whereon she stood was a delightful Plain, planted with all manner of flowering Plants and Shrubs, and cut out into a thousand green Plats divided by Gravel Walks set with tall Evergreens, and here and there adorned with Fountains, Cascades, and Statues of the most exquisite Workmanship. The Air was perfumed with all the Odour of the East, and the feathered Songsters regaled the Ear with a perpetual Concert of artless Melody. In a Word, she thought she could find something in that Abode to gratify all the Senses, had she not been disturbed by the Howlings of the wild Beasts in the Valley below; which uncommon Noise, so different from every Object on the Plain about her, raised her Curiosity to see from whence it came, and led her to the Brink of the Precipice. The Sight of a Prospect so dark and dismal, threw her into the greatest Agony. She would have left the Precipice, but she had not Power to
move

move, for her Limbs bent under her, her Knees smote one against another, and an universal Tremor seized her whole Frame, so that she was ready to fall over the Rock ; when, to add to her Horror, the former Scene shifted. She could now discover none of those bewitching Beauties which so much captivated the Sense but a Minute before ; the whole Plain become a hideous barren Waste, thro' which she saw a foaming Monster coming as if with open Jaws to devour her. The Dread of which obliged her to let herself slip gently off the Rock ; and tho' she fell some hundred Yards, as she imagined, she found herself no ways hurt, and the Terror she was in began to abate apace.

She thought she found herself in a Wood near a narrow Foot-Path, which she followed for some considerable Time, and at length, much fatigued, arrived at a small Hutt, built of Mud, at the Door of which she met an old Man of a venerable Aspect, who desired her, in a courteous manner, to walk into his mean Habitation, and accept of such Refreshment as the Place could afford her out of the spontaneous Product of Nature. She entered, and was regaled with some Fruits dry'd in the Sun, and a Glass of crystalline Water which distill'd from a Rock near the Cottage. The good old Man asked her modestly how she came there?

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She related her Fall from the Rock, and requested him to tell where she was, and how she should get Home. The Hermit told her, that many had fallen as she had done, but few, very few, ever returned; however, he would give her such Directions as would help her out of the Wood, and, if rightly observed, would, in the end, conduct her to her peaceful Home. He opened a Door in the Cottage, which she had not before observed, took her by the Hand, and conducted her to a Path somewhat rugged, which, he said, was the Road she wanted, and proffered to conduct her part of the Way; but she, unwilling to give him so much trouble, and to avoid being obliged to keep his Pace, which, on account of his Age, was very slow, desired to be excused. At parting with her, he gave her, as she thought, a *Gold Watch*, saying, Look on this, my Daughter, observe where it points, and you can never be at a Loss for the Road. As soon as her old Guide was gone, she looked at the Watch with great Earnestness, and was mightily pleased with the Hermit's Present: But being curious to see the Inside of it, she opened it, and found it was one of *Tompion's*, and by the Number, the identical Watch for which she had been transported. The Surprise this Discovery put her in, threw her into such an Agony, that she awaked.

Women are generally great Believers in Dreams, and she, of all her Sex, the greatest; for her Mother's Dream, mention'd in the Introduction to the first Part, which she saw plainly verified in her own Case, had wrought her up to a high Pitch of Credulity in sleeping Divinations; and as this Dream had something very particular in it, and happening the first Night of her Arrival on *English* Ground; it was no wonder for a Person so much prepossessed in favour of these Delusions, to be very much affected with it. She could sleep no more for that Night, and for several Nights and Days together she could not chase the Phantom from her Brain. She did all she could to explain it, but was still more puzzled the more she endeavoured to search into the Meaning of it; and fretted so much, that she threw herself into a Fever, which had like to have proved fatal to her. However, she recovered, and finding no Ease to her Anxieties by her own Conjectures, she communicated the Secret to some of her Confidants; but as she concealed certain Circumstances of the Watch, it was impossible, if they had been really skilled in these sorts of Mysteries, to give her any Satisfaction. They all flattered her that it was good, and all that was bad in it must certainly mean her late Fever, from which she was now recovered. This did not satisfy her;

she

she had recourse to a kind of Astrologer, who pretended to cast Nativities and tell Fortunes, by his pretended Intercourse with the Stars. She waited on this Conjuror, and told him her Dream. He immediately cast up a few unmeaning Scrawls, and at last told her, That the future Satisfaction of her Life depended on her never parting with a particular Gold Watch, which she either was already possessed of, or soon would be. That indeed this Watch might be stole from her one time or other, but that she might give herself no trouble on that account, for she would certainly recover it again, and be for ever afterwards happy.

This idle random Stuff added fresh Fuel to her heated Imagination. She compared the Conjuror's Prognosticks with her Dream, and at last explained the Mystery thus : That her Fortune and future Happiness really depended on the Possession of a certain particular Watch. This Thought gave her as much Satisfaction, as if *Joseph* had told her her Dream, and the Interpretation of it, till she began to reflect, that it was next to an Impossibility to find out the individual Watch she had been transported for stealing. However, she did not despair. She remembered that the Gentleman, who prosecuted her, had recovered the Watch from those to whom her Gang had sold it. She had private En-

quiry made what was become of him ; found he was dead, and that all his Goods had been sold by Auction to satisfy a Commission of Bankruptcy a Year or two before he died. After diligent Search, she found out the Auctioneer, and by his Books discovered the Purchaser. In a Word, after a Search of near two Years, and a very great Expence, the Watch was traced to a Pawnbroker's, of whom she had it at a reasonable Price, it being then out of Fashion.

She was no sooner possessed of this imaginary Treasure, than she wept over it for Joy, and now and then a Tear fell in Remembrance of the bitter Scene she had gone thro' on its account, but very few were her Reflections on the Goodness of Providence, which had rescued her from all Danger, and raised her to her present flourishing State. She ascribed some Parts of her Success to her own Cunning and Wisdom, and the rest to mere Chance : Tho' now she thought herself out of the Power of Chance or Fortune, at least, as long as she had the Watch, which she took Care to preserve like a *Paladium*. She never permitted it to be out of her Sight, and frequently said, she would not part with that Watch to be made a Dutchess, and valued herself more upon being Mistress of it, than of her Estate. Her Acquaintance, who were not let into the secret Reason of her great

great Affection to this favourite Machine; sometimes bantered her about it, and her Intimates, by hearing her often talk of it, nicknamed her *The Lady of the Gold Watch*, from whence, in a few Years, both the Watch and she became so famous, that she was much better known by that Name than any other : But of the Watch more hereafter.

In a few Weeks after her Arrival in *England*, she had her House elegantly furnished at the Court-End of the Town, and set up a handsome Equipage, appearing in every Thing equal to the great Fortune she was possessed of, but at the same time observed in her Family a parsimonious kind of OEconomy. She loved Grandeur, and the Appearance of it, but hated the Expence, which she curtailed as much as possible, by pinching her Servants, and all the Tradesmen she dealt with. She was a very Tyrant at Home, scolded from Morning to Night all that came in her Way, and beat and bruised such of her Servants as would put up with that Kind of Usage, which few did long, except a poor *Negro* Maid, who carried about her constantly the Marks of her Mistress's violent Temper, and all of them served her out of Fear without one Spark of that Affection and Esteem which ought to subsist betwixt those who have such a Connexion.

She

She might be now about fifty Years of Age, and having about her the Remains of a fine Woman, she fancied that she had still Charms worth the cultivating, by all the Advantages of Dress and Jewels. She appeared at all publick Places with such an Air and Equipage, as persuaded some younger Brothers, that the Widow had still some warm Blood in her Veins, and would not be averse to the Comforts of a fourth Engagement. Whether she had any such Notion in her Head, I cannot determine, but in a little Time she had a Swarm of Suitors, whom she received with as much Coquetry and Affectation, as if she had been a Girl of Fifteen.

Amongst the rest, whom the Charms of her Fortune drew to her antient Banners, a *Scotch* Gentleman, known to the gay Part of the Town by the Name of Count *Ferguson*, was, after some Time, the first in her good Graces.

The Count, as I have observed, was a *Scotchman*, and by consequence a Gentleman, but whether a younger, or an elder Brother, I am not able, at this Distance, to learn, nor is it very material to our Story. He had a pretty genteel Education, but no Fortune that was visible, tho' he kept the best Company,

pany, appeared gay, dressed well, and lived for the most Part by a fashionable Kind of Sharping. He was about forty Years of Age, had a good Person, a tolerable Address, and a sufficient Share of Assurance, which supplied all other Deficiencies. He had made love to almost all the Widows, old and young of any Fortune, about Town, but had never been successful ; so that at the Time the Widow *B—n* appeared, he had almost entirely abandoned his Hopes of making his Fortune that Way. But her Figure and reputed Wealth gave new Life to the Project, and he once more resolved to try his Fortune in search of the Treasures of the new World.

He saw her at Park and Play, and all the other publick Places, but neither his Invention nor Assurance could furnish him, for some Months, with an Opportunity of offering her his Services, till Chance, at last, became his Friend. In one of his Rambles thro' the bawdy Purlieus of *Covent-Garden*, and its Neighbourhood, he happened to light into Company with *Jack F—rg—on*, the Widow's second Son by her first *Jamaica-Husband*. *Jack* was smitten with all the Vices of the Town, but had not Brains enough of his own to pursue them without making himself ridiculous, and the Sport of all the Wenches and their Cullies. The
Count

Count soon discovered the Inclination and the Depth of his Faculties, which he soon determined to make subservient to his own Ends. He took his Part the first Night against a Set of young Rakes, who were diverting themselves at the Expence of our Creolian at *Moll King's* Coffee-house, and by that Means screwed himself into his Favour. At first he had no other View than of making a Bubble of him in the sharpening Way, judging by his Conversation and Appearance, that he must be a Man of Wealth; but he no sooner understood his Name, and that he was Son to (the Widow *B——n*) than he changed his Measures, and resolved to make him useful to him in his Design on his Mother. Being of the same Name, he claimed Kindred to him, and made out his Pedigree with all the Exactness of a Herald, which was a singular Favour to the Creolian, who knew no more of his Grandfather than of *Prester-John*. He heard his Father say he came from *Scotland*, and was prodigiously pleased to find, by the Count's Relation, he was allied to some of the best Families in that Kingdom. In a Word, in two or three Days Time *Jack* and the Count were Hand and Glove. He introduced him to his Mother, who was not displeased to find, that her Son had light upon a Relation of the Count's Figure. The Count pursued his Opportunity and laid siege to the Widow, from whom he thought

thought he met with but slight Resistance, at least, nothing to discourage his Pursuit. However, *Jack* the Son smelt a Rat, and was not quite such a Milk-sop as to be willing the Count should induce his Mother to another Marriage. He liked him above all Men for a Companion, but had no Stomach to have him more nearly allied to him than he was, so that a Dryness between them commenced, which was like to end in a Quarrel. The Count's Measures were not ripe enough to venture on bidding Defiance to the Son, therefore he contrived a Method to get him out of the Way, which he did by engaging him in an Intrigue with one of the Girls of the Town, whom he at first palmed upon him for a Lady of Fortune and Reputation. The *Creolian* was soon over Head and Ears in Love; and for fear of his Mother, was persuaded to ship himself off for his *American* Estate and carry his Doxy with him, whom, as I mention'd in the first Part, I am told he has since married.

The Count having got rid of the Son, opened the Trenches before the Widow in Form. The Courtship was tedious, and in the end he found the Lady had no Stomach for Matrimony, nor any Exception to a Gallant, whom she promised to pay according to his Behaviour. This was some Baulk to our Fortune-Hunter, who had flattered himself

with being entirely Master of her Estate ; but he must submit to her Terms, or none. He would have persuaded her into a Settlement on him for Life, but That she would not comply with, but promised she would supply him to his Heart's Content, but still have every thing left in her own Power, to bind him the firmer to his good Behaviour. The first Night she made him a Present of five hundred Guineas, and promised again, that her Liberality should know no Bounds if he would be faithful and diligent in the Exercise of his Duty.

Whether or not the Widow kept any more Gallants I am not very certain, but if she did, the Count durst not see them ; and, in fact, had no great Reason to complain if part of the Duty was taken off his Hands, while he found himself the first in her good Graces. He lived publickly in the House, directed and managed all her Affairs, as if he had been really her Husband, and appeared abroad with an Equipage equal to the first Peers in the Kingdom. But there is nothing on this Side the Grave certain : The Count soon saw a Reverse of this golden Age.

In the Year 1719 and 20, when the Nation was mad in search of imaginary Riches, and the Wisest bartered Plenty and Peace for Penury and Wretchedness, the epidemical Disease

sease seized the Count, and he infected the Widow. Tho' they had between four and five thousand a Year real Income, and a vast Sum of ready Money, yet they were not contented; they itched after more. In a Word, the Count seeing such vast Sums got in *Change-Alley*, in a short time, for a Trifle, put in his little ready Money, which he increased, in less than a Fortnight, above a Thousand *per Cent*. He communicated his Happiness to his Widow, who unhappily put into the second Subscription of the *South-Sea* not only all her ready Money, but as much as she could raise on a Mortgage of the Jointure payable to her out of her Son *F--rg--on's* Estate in *England*. All went in, and in a few Days she and the Count were worth half a Million, as Stocks then sold. But still they were not contented; they wished for, and expected more so long, that in the end all was lost. The Count, in the latter end of the Year 1720, was not worth a Groat, and the Widow had only her *Jamaica*-Jointure to live upon; and to add to her Misfortune, her elder Son, Mr. *F--g--on*, resenting the scandalous Intimacy between her and the Count, by Application to the *Chancellor*, took from her the Guardianship of her Daughters, on a Surmise that she and the Count were in a Plot to sell them to some Vagabond in hopes of sharing their Fortune.

The young Ladies being taken from her much about the time of the Fall of the Stocks, dispirited her so much, that she took a Resolution to leave *London*, where she could not appear with that Splendor she formerly did. She fixed on *Bristol* for her Retreat, and with her the Count retired, who found a mighty Alteration in the State of her Affairs. The Widow's Circumstances would not permit her to be so liberal as usual; and her Disappointment had chagrined her Temper so much, that he soon grew weary of his Place. She was constantly out of Temper, and he had no other Way to please her, but by doing double Duty, which was sometimes hard upon him. However, he passed about a Twelvemonth with her at *Bristol*, and then finding his Allowance daily diminishing, and his Drudgery no way lessened, he took a Resolution to leave her, but not without taking with him as much as would serve to make a handsome Push with at *Bath*, where he intended to go, and make his Fortune out of some young Bubble he understood was then at that Place.

He found an Opportunity of leaving her one Morning fast asleep, picked her Pocket of the Key of her strong Box, out of which he took five hundred Guineas, and the famous Gold Watch, on which she set so great a Value as to prize it above all earthly Things.

With

With these he set out of *Bath*, and that Evening made his five hundred Guineas almost five Thousand.

The Widow waked and missed the Count, at which she was not much alarmed, supposing he had gone a Hunting, as he had mentioned the Evening before. But when she got up, and found her strong Box rifled of her Money, and what she lamented more, her dear Watch : She stamped, raged, swore, tore her Hair, and behaved in every thing like a Madwoman. The Theft was soon settled on the Count, who did not appear all that Day. At Night his Chamber was broke open, where they understood he had carried off every Thing of Value with him. She was chagrined for the Loss of the Man, but not half so much as the Watch : which she was resolved to recover or perish. Application was made to a Magistrate, and Warrants granted to apprehend him. They imagined he had been gone to *London*, but he was found at *Bath* as poor as *Job*, having, by a Reverse of Fortune, lost all the Money. However, he had not parted with the fatal Watch : That was found about him. He was committed, and try'd the next Assizes, where the Widow appeared in Person to prosecute him. Her Council had made her believe, since the Watch was found upon him, the Trial would be soon over ; but they reckoned without their Host, for as
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the Count had managed it, it was difficult to cast him : He made a very artful Defence, and exposed the Prosecutor to the Ridicule of the whole Court.

He denied that he had opened her strong Box, and insisted that the Widow had given him the Watch for Services done. He opened very fully the Intimacy between him and the Prosecutrix, and the Duty she commonly expected from him in lieu of the Money and Maintenance she gave him, and said he received the Watch, for which he was now prosecuted, on the following remarkable Occasion. “ The Prosecutrix (says he) happened one Evening to be out upon a Visit with a Set of old Women of her own Complexion, where the Conversation turned upon conjugal Performances, each in the Company boasting how often they had been caressed in a Night, and all said more, I am sure, than mortal Man could perform. The Widow came Home, and entertained me with this gossipping Conversation. I listened to her, and guessed her Wishes, which I was resolved, if I gratified, she should pay for. In a word, for a certain Number of Times, she stipulated to give me 100 Guineas and this Watch. I performed the Contract, and had my Reward from her own Hands.” This Story made all the Court merry at the Widow’s Expence, who owned she gave him a Watch of the same Kind, but
not

not the Watch in question. He endeavoured to prove by the Maid then in Court, that this was the Watch she gave him; but his Evidence amounted only to a Proof of her giving a Watch, but not to the Identity, and the Widow herself swearing positively to This being stolen out of her strong Box, wherein she locked it every Night, the Jury brought in the Count Guilty, and he was condemned to die: But the Judge was prevailed upon, before he left the City, to change the Sentence to Transportation, at which the Widow was heartily vexed, for she now conceived a mortal Antipathy to him on account of his exposing her so much by his Defence; but she could not help it, her Character was every way so odious, no Body minded her Resentment, and she found herself so slighted at *Bristol*, and the Neighbourhood, where the Boys used to follow her, calling out, *The Lady of the Gold Watch*, that she was obliged in a little Time to leave the Town, and take Shelter in an obscure Corner of *Westminster*. This was the first good Fortune that attended the Watch, which she had delivered to her in Court, but not the last, for it seems to have been connected with every Circumstance of her Life, and to be fatal wherever it appeared.

It happened in the Prosecution of the Count, she employed one Co—y, an *Irishman*, as
her

her Solicitor, who soon discovered that his Client had another Case to split, more beneficial than the Prosecution. This he determined, now that the Count was sent on his Travels, should fall to his Lot. The frequent Occasion he had to be with her on that Affair, gave him Opportunity enough. The Secrets he had heard of the Count's Correspondence, added to his natural Assurance, had enabled him to make as quick Advances as he pleased, and which he found were kindly received ; he never proposed Marriage, but contented himself with the Office of Groom of the Bed-Chamber ; but in a Year or two's Time he gained such an Ascendancy over her, that he could persuade her to any Thing. His Aim was to make as much of her as he could, and to depend as little as possible on the Event of her Death. He proposed to her to go over to *Jamaica* to sell her Jointure there, in order to purchase an Estate here. She was now doating, and followed his Counsel without advising with any other Person on Earth about it. She disposed of the Remainder of her Effects here, and gave him the Cash, which he secured in the *Bank of England* in his own Name, only taking with him as much as was sufficient to defray the Charge of their Passage. They set out in the Beginning of the Year 1726, or 1727, I am not positive which, and arrived safe at *Port-Royal*. Her Sons, both the *F-r-g—ns*, and their Relations, with the
 Friends

Friends of Mr. B--n, her late Husband, received the Widow very coolly, scarce with common Civility, as her Affair with the Count, and her Intrigue with her *Irish* Gallant, were no Secret to them. However, when they understood what her Errand was to *Jamaica*, they dissuaded her all in their Power from reducing herself entirely to the Mercy of a Man who could have no Esteem for her, nor any other Intention in his pretended Services, but to prey upon her. They prophesied to her, that as soon as she had converted her Estate into Cash, she would be cheated of it, and left to starve in her old Age : That if such an Accident happened, she could expect no Relief from her Children and Relations, whom she had so grossly scandalized ; and nothing but Coolness from every one that should hear her Story. They requested her to stay in *Jamaica*, and if she had an Inclination to return to *England*, they would oblige themselves to pay her her Money at quarterly Payments in *London*, which might remove the Force of all Arguments drawn from the Difficulty and Uncertainty of Remittances from thence. But all their Reasoning and Rhetorick was in vain. The subtle *Irishman* had got such fast Hold of her Affection, that she was only directed by him. In a word, she sold her Jointure for twenty-five thousand Pounds *English* Money, all which she put into her Paramour's Hands, with

Power to take what Means he pleased to transport both her and it to *Europe*.

He had now got what he aimed at, and began to cast about in his own Mind for Means to get rid of her, but carried it fair to her as long as she stay'd in that Island, for fear of her Children and their Relations. He took Bills for the better Half of the Money, and remitted them to his Correspondent in *England*, and bought up Sugar, and the other Products of the Country, with the Remainder, which he shipped on board a Fleet then preparing for *Europe*, in one of which he and she proposed to embark; but he, 'tis more than probable, never intended it: For at the time of the Departure of the Fleet with their Convoy, he feigned himself sick, and allowed it to go without them. The Fleet being gone, he recovered, and freighted a small Ship, in which he and she embarked for *England*. The Vessel had not got through the Windward Passage, e'er she was attacked by a *Spanish* Barcolonga, who boarded her without any Resistance on their Side. The *Spaniard* had another Vessel belonging to *Virginia* in Possession, which he had taken the Day before, and had not Men enough to man both his Prizes, therefore he proposed to ransom one of them. The *Virginia*-Vessel was pitched upon, and all the Prisoners on both Vessels put on board her, except her Mate, and

C—n—y,

C--n--y, who agreed to go to the *Havanah* with the *Spaniards* till the Ransom was paid. Mrs. B—n was very unwilling to part with her Spark, and begged of him to take her along with him, rather than permit her to go to *Virginia*, and would have prevailed on the *Spaniard* to have taken the Captain of the Sloop as a Ransom in his Room, but C——y would, by no Means, either permit the one or the other. He told her, his Letters to his Correspondent in *Virginia* would procure her a handsome Reception, and that he should soon have Bills from *England* to procure his Freedom ; that he would come to her in the first Flag of Truce, and proceed for *Europe* with the first Convoy. However weak his Reasons were, she was obliged to be satisfied, and parted with him in the most disconsolate manner. Her Heart foreboded she never was to see him more, and she dreaded *Virginia*, which had been the Scene of her greatest Misery, and the manner of her leaving it, made her more in fear of a Discovery, than she had been in *England*. The Vessel arrived at *Falmouth* in *Virginia*, where her Owners, some *Glasgow* Merchants, resided, and to one of whom Mrs. B——n had Letters of Recommendation from her *Irishman*. The Gentleman received her very politely, and told her, he would treat her genteely on account of her Sex, but that he had no great Esteem for the Person whose Letters she had

delivered; since he had very little Dealings with him, but those sufficient to convince him, they were happiest who had least Concern with him.

This was a prodigious Shock to our Widow, who found herself now in a Country where she would desire to be a Stranger, without any other Recommendation than that of a Man who was looked upon in no better Light than a Villain. A thousand Circumstances occurred to her Memory, to raise her Suspicion of being betrayed; and the Arguments he used for parting with her, when there was no absolute Necessity, now she had Leisure to weigh them, appeared so frivolous, that she wondered how her Judgment could be so far misled as to listen to them. These Reflections threw her into a deep Melancholy; out of which the good natur'd Gentleman, who had taken her to his own House, and really treated her with great Humanity, could not divert her. He endeavoured to encourage her, by assuring her of his Protection, as much as if she had brought Letters of Credit from the dearest Friend he had on Earth, and that there was nothing in his Power he would neglect to make her easy while she stay'd in that Country.

This generous Behaviour of the Merchant gained her Confidence so far, that at last she
made

made no scruple of acquainting him with part of her Story, at least, so far as related to the great Trust she had put in her *Irish* Gallant. Mr. *Alexander*, for that was the Merchant's Name, concealed as much as possible from her the Fears he had on her account, but could not smother his Surprize, that a Woman of her Experience should put her All, and that so considerable a Fortune, into any one Man's Hand, without taking some Kind of Security for it, at least, some Acknowledgement of the Trust, all which she had neglected. However they waited patiently for Letters from him for several Months, but none came. The *Virginia* Merchants had remitted their Ransom-Money, and in about a Twelvemonth from Mrs. *B——n's* landing, a Flag of Truce arrived from the *Havanah* with the Ransomer on board.

The Sight of a Flag of Truce from that Port, set all the Widow's Spirits in a Flutter; but when she found her Lawyer was not there, she appeared as one Planet-struck; but her Despair and Agony was beyond all Expression when she was told, that she was no sooner on board, than he agreed with the *Spaniard* for the Ransom of his own Sloop, and satisfied him with Bills upon *Holland*, which the Captain knew to be good, and that he, and some of his Countrymen from on board the *Barcalongo*, sailed the next Day

Day for *Pistacio*, where he said he designed to spend the Remainder of his Days with a Fortune, which he boasted, that the superannuated Beldam, as he called her, had been foolish enough to bestow on him.

Mr. *Alexander*, the Widow's Patron, was by no means surprized at the Villainy of her Lawyer ; it was no more than what he expected of him ; but he was at a Loss to find Means to moderate the Widow's Grief. Her Misfortunes were such as scarce could admit of Alleviation. She had lost her All, and with the cruel Reflection, that she had neither Fortune, nor any thing else to blame but her own Folly and Credulity. However, he gave her all the Comfort he could ; he assured her of a Maintenance, while she lived, in the same manner she enjoyed, when he had some Hopes of being reimbursed ; and promised, that neither he or any of his Family should ever fail in the Respect that was due to her Station, when on the highest Pinacle of Fortune. He brought Religion to his Aid in order to calm the Tempest of her Mind, but that was a Subject, poor Woman, she had never yet dipp'd into ; and it was only by slow Degrees it could work upon a Heart so much immersed in the Pleasures and Follies of this Life, and not till she had tasted some more Lashes of adverse Fortune.

After

After a few Days, as nothing violent is lasting, her Grief became less outrageous, and, by Degrees, she could make some small Acknowledgement for the great Obligation she was under to Mr. *Alexander*, and his Family, who treated her with all imaginable Tendernefs, and began to think of what was proper for her to do in this strange Reverse of her Affairs. The first Thing that occurred, was to write to her Correspondent in *England*, to find if *Co--y* had drawn all her Effects from thence, and to discover, if possible, the true Place of his Retreat. Mr. *Alexander* directed his Correspondent to make the same Enquiry; and it was necessary he should, for those Mrs. *B—n* wrote to, were so exasperated at her unaccountable and scandalous Behaviour, that they took no Notice of her Letters, and never made her any Return; but the others by the next Fleet acquainted Mr. *Alexander*, that *Co—y* had been over in *England*, and had given out that Mrs. *B——n* died in her Passage, after making over to him all her Effects, and that he had drawn all his Money from thence, and was gone to settle in *Holland*.

She had not now the least Hopes of recovering her Effects, tho' she sometimes was on the point of following him to *Holland*, and persecute him as much as lay in her Power; but

but her now only Friend, Mr. *Alexander*, dissuaded her from such a rash Enterprize, by representing to her, that as she had nothing to produce as a Testimony of the Trust she had put in him, she would only expose herself to new Troubles and Vexations, without the least Hopes of punishing a Villain whom Heaven would one Day call to a severe Account for his Treachery, by Means more effectual than any that could possibly occur to her at present.

These Reflections, and the Sincerity she found in the Behaviour of her Benefactor, in some Measure calmed her Mind, and enabled her to bear up under her Afflictions with as much Composure, as it was well possible for one in her Circumstances to do; but an Accident happened in a few Months which gave her fresh Cause of Grief: The Affair was this.

Mr. *Alexander* had several Sloops with which he traded between the *Leeward Islands* and the neighbouring Colonies; one of them, commanded by one *Jackson*, returned to *Falmouth* from a trading Voyage. The Master had been long in the Service, and when at Home was always treated by his Owner with great Familiarity, and dined frequently at his Table. At this Time he was received as usual, and was introduced to Mrs. *Brown*, who no
 sooner

sooner saw him, than she was seized with an universal Tremor, which she could not account for. Her Disorder was visible to all the Company, and gave her Landlord great Concern ; but as neither they, nor she could divine the Cause, they attributed it to the Disorders incident to Women of her Years. She withdrew from Table, and there was no more said of it for that Day. She recovered, and was able to come to Dinner the next Day, when she found herself almost in the same Disorder on the Appearance of Capt. *Jackson*. However, she sat it out, and endeavoured to get the better of it as much as possible. *Jackson* eyed her closely, and having heard that she came from *Jamaica*, some Features of her Face brought her to his Remembrance. He was soon convinced of his Conjecture, but concealed his Thoughts for a Day or two, during which time, he appeared more than ordinarily melancholy, and shunned being in Company with Mrs. *B——n* as much as possible. At last conscious Guilt suggested to him, that she knew him as well as he did her, and without consulting his Reason, he immediately concluded, he must impeach her to save himself. To explain the Riddle, the Reader must remember, that in the first Part I mentioned a Fellow, the Paramour of *Betty Mathews*, who was concerned in the Robbery of the Justice, and who left them at *Jamaica*, after receiving his Share of the Plunder, and went
F
upon

upon a Voyage to the *Spanish Main*. This *Jackson* prov'd to be the same Man, who after many Years Continuance in the Buccancering Trade, had left the Crew, changed his Name, and, in the end, fell into Mr. *Alexander's* Service, as a Master of one of his Sloops, and had behaved for several Years with great Prudence and Fidelity. He no sooner saw Mrs. *B——n*, and heard part of her Story, than he concluded, tho' without any rational Foundation, that she would certainly impeach him of the Robbery; to prevent which, without communicating his Intentions to the Owner, who he saw was too much in Mrs. *B——n's* Interest, to believe a Story, which, at first Sight, would seem improbable; he left the House without taking leave, or upon some frivolous Pretext, and went straight to the Son of the old Justice, (for the old Gentleman was many Years dead) confessed himself concerned in the Robbery, which the Gentleman remembered but as a Dream, and impeached Mrs. *B——n* by the Name of *Mary Haycock*, the Name she went by in that Colony during her Slavery. The Justice's Son, who was a mere Planter, and loved nothing but Money, listened greedily to any thing which had the least Prospect of bringing him any. A Lawyer is immediately called, (who, like his Tribe in that Country as in all others, love dearly to promote Mischief, and set Prosecutions on foot, no matter

matter how unreasonable since they are sure to be Gainers, lose who will) he encouraged the Planter to take a Warrant against Mrs. *B—n*, telling him, That as she was given out to be a Woman of Fortune, she would certainly compound the Matter true or false, rather than have her Name mentioned on so scandalous an Account.

The greedy Creolian was easily persuaded, and the Impeacher carried before a Justice, of a Degree of Understanding suitable to the Design they had in Hand, for it was not the Lawyer's Interest to apply to a Man of Sense or Honour, who would have quash'd a Story so improbable, and of forty Years standing. In fine, a Warrant was granted for apprehending Mrs. *B—n*, who little expected a Shock of this Kind. However, the Character of Mr. *Alexander*, in whose House she was, obliged them to use some Decency in executing it. The Lawyer and a Constable, without any Attendance, came one Morning to his House, and, in a handsome manner, acquainted him with their Errand, at which Mr. *Alexander* appeared Thunderstruck, and more so when he found his honest Captain was at the Bottom of the whole. It immediately occurred to him, that the old Gentlewoman might conclude him in a Combination with his Servant, and that Thought, as well as a Principle of Humanity, determined him to

do her all the Service in his Power, and risk his Fortune in Defence of her Innocence : for it never once entered into his Head that the Charge could be true. He told the Constable, that to shew his Obedience to the Law, he would permit him to serve this Warrant upon his Guest, but not to carry her out of his House, for he would give Bail for her Appearance. He went himself before hand, and in Terms the most tender and polite, related to her the Charge against her, and prepared her for the Reception of the Constable. It is impossible to express her Agony in Words ; the Reader can much better imagine it ; but in all her Transport she never once betrayed one Word in Acknowledgment of her Guilt ; that she smothered within herself, and vented her Sorrow in bitter Complaints, that her grey Hairs should be loaded with so much undeserved Calumny. Her Tears, her Appearance, and steady Behaviour, staggered, in some Measure, the Belief of the Lawyer, who was touched, for some Moments, with Remorse, for engaging so hastily in defaming a Person of her Rank ; but that Qualm did not last long, the Lawyer returned to himself, and the Warrant was served ; but Mr. *Alexander* entered into Bonds for her Appearance at the next Quarter-Sessions before another Justice, who happened just then to alight at his House.

Mrs.

Mrs. B—n, tho' she had all the Comfort and Assistance her kind Landlord could afford her, yet sunk under the Weight of her Sorrow ; and the more, as she was obliged to conceal the heaviest Part of her Grief, *viz.* her Guilt, which she durst communicate to none, tho' she saw it was more than probable it would all appear upon a Trial, which she hoped she never should live to go thro'; and her Age and great Perturbation of Mind threw her into a Fever, which had like to have put an End to all her Sorrows : But Providence intended, before she left this Stage, to give her a View of the Design of its Dispensations, and teach her to make a proper Use of Prosperity and Adversity, of both which she had experienced a large Portion.

In a Day or two after she was taken ill, the Surgeon of the Place who attended her, insinuated to Mr. *Alexander* some Doubts of her Recovery, at least by his Skill. That Gentleman, who was never more himself than when doing Good, was alarmed at her Danger, and resolving to spare no Cost, sent immediately an Express for Dr. *St—br—d—e*, a Man then the most eminent in his Profession in all *America*. The Doctor came, and visited his Patient, but found himself, on approaching her, seized with an uncommon Flutter of Spirits, mixed with a certain reverential

rential Awe, which he had never felt on approaching Persons even of the highest Rank. He saw her, a venerable aged Woman, with a peculiar Air of Grandeur, which her Sickness could not conceal; but still that was not uncommon, nor could it account for what he felt within him, when he touch'd her Pulse. Her Fever, by the Description the Surgeon gave him of it, was of the nervous Kind, but he was surprized, when feeling her Pulse, to find it beat high and strong, with a great Flow of Spirits, and all the other Symptoms of an inflammatory Disorder; but the Patient put him out of that Doubt, by acquainting him, that she found herself, upon his first Appearance, quite altered of a sudden from what she was before he entered the Room. The comparing this with his own Case, gave him still the more Cause for Reflection; but Thinking was in vain, Thoughts could not unriddle the Mystery. He waited an Hour or two longer before he prescribed any thing, and then, upon Examination, found his Patient had relapsed into her former nervous Fever, and that her Case seemed dangerous, as if it was of the malignant Class. He advised taking a little Blood, which he would perform himself. Accordingly the Patient is brought as much as possible to the Light, and he took out his Lancet, and, as usual, bared his own Arm, that his Linnen might not be spotted with the Blood. The Patient sat very
pa-

patiently while her Arm was binding, but chancing to cast her Eye on his naked Arm, she fainted quite away, and was near Half an Hour before she could be brought to herself, when she desired every Body to leave the Room but the Doctor. She was laid in her Bed, and desired him to sit down by her, and shew her that Mark he had on his Arm? He did so; she asked him how he came by it? and was told, that he had it since he was an Infant: Then bursting into Tears, which he could not account for, he acquainted her, that he was told by the Lady, who had taken care of his Education, that this Mark had been made by his Mother, whom he had never seen; and, on mentioning the Name of the Gentlewoman who had taken care of him, Mrs. B——n, raising herself from the Bed with uncommon Spirit, clasped him in her Arms, and cried out, “ Oh my Son! I am “ your unhappy Mother!” The Tenderness of this Scene will not bear a Relation in this little Treatise, which it’s now almost time to conclude. Let it suffice to inform my Reader, that this is her Son by the Turnkey of *Newgate*, of whom she was delivered at her first Purchaser’s House, who had taken care of his Education, and brought him up to the Study of Physick, in which he grew eminent, and acquired a large Fortune *. He had heard
her

* There was some Error in the Author’s first Information concerning this Gentleman, which went thro’ the greatest
Part

her Name and Story as far as *Virginia* was concerned, therefore she had nothing to do but to acknowledge herself *Polly Haycock*, to gain his Belief, but without that, he felt a certain Impulse in Nature forcing him to own his Parent.

She now had a Friend to whom she could disburthen all her Secrets, a Pleasure she had never enjoyed in all her former Prosperity, for to her other Children she durst not reveal the shocking Part of her Story ; but the Doctor knew it ; it was familiar to him, and he was better prepared for the Discovery ; better capable of giving her Advice. Tho' a *Physician*, he had a large Share of true Piety, and unfeigned, useful Religion, which he endeavoured to instil into the Mind of his Parent, who, till now, was utterly a Stranger to that Peace of Mind resulting from a thorough Knowledge of the Truth of it. He taught her to see the Hand of God in all her Concerns, the Use she ought to have made of his Dispensation, but especially pointed out the Effects which her present Afflictions ought to have upon her Mind. In a Word, he said all that even a Divine could suggest on that Occasion, which had a greater Effect upon her Malady, than any physical Remedies he could employ.

As

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As in the Narrative of her Case since she left *Virginia*, she had mentioned her remarkable Dream the first Night she slept in *England* after her Return, he took occasion to remark to her, how miserably she had been mistaken in that kind Warning Heaven had given her of her Danger : He told her that this Dream represented to her, in a very feeling Allegory, the happy Station to which she was advanced, by the Scene on the Top of the Hill, and the dreadful Misfortunes which threatened her if she was too much elated with her prosperous Circumstances, and listened to the Call of the grosser Appetites and Passions, was represented by the Scene from below, to which she plunged herself, by her Conduct with Count *F—g—n* and others : That the Path, to which she was directed by her Guide, who himself is Justice and Moderation, was Truth and Virtue, which is commonly, to sensual Minds, thought rugged, tho' it certainly leads, in the end, to Peace and Happiness, and that the Watch, on which she was directed to look, was only a Piece of Advice to reflect on the Errors she had been guilty of, and that the only Use she ought to make of that Remembrance, was to be continually thankful to the Divine Being for his unmerited Favours, and to avoid any thing that might draw on afresh his just Indignation.

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For prudent Reasons, the Discovery of their Relation was kept a Secret : She recovered, and, by the the Doctor's Interest and Mr. *Alexander's*, the Prosecution was dropt, and Captain *Jackson* persuaded he had been mistaken, and to ask Pardon publickly for the Affront, which Mrs. *B—n* accepted of, as the only Reparation she could get.

The Doctor, under Pretext of Change of Air, persuaded Mr. *Alexander* to allow her to go down to his House, where she lived for several Years in great Peace in the Esteem of all her Acquaintance, for she retired, in a manner from the World, was employed only in Offices of Devotion and Charity, for which she became famous all over the Province ; and to complete her Happiness as much as it was possible, she had her Revenge of her *Irish* Traitor : for Mr. *Alexander* had writ to his Correspondents in *Holland* to enquire after him ; he was soon found out, and understanding, at least dreading, that a Prosecution was to be commenced against him, he shipped himself, and all his Effects, for one of the *Dutch* Plantations ; but happily for the Widow, the Vessel was drove by Stress of Weather to *Virginia*, and not far from the Place where the Doctor lived. *C—n—y* kept himself *Incog.* tho' not so close but that he was discovered by a *Jamaica-Man*, who recollected that he had seen him in that Island
with

with Mrs. B——n, whose present Residence with the Doctor he was privy to ; without Loss of Time he gave the Lady Intelligence of her *quondam* Friend, whom she, by her Son's Means, soon had taken into Custody. The Doctor threatened him with the severest Prosecution, which induced the Lawyer to propose to make the Matter up, by delivering all her Effects on board the Ship, for the Use of Mrs. B——n. This was agreed to, and the Goods delivered, amounting to within five thousand Pounds of what he had received from her, and he was allowed to go where he pleased. Mrs. B——n made the Doctor, who had a fine Family of Children, Master of all these, except a Present, which with Difficulty her good Friend Mr. *Alexander* was persuaded to accept of. She lived till the latter end of the Year 1738, and died much lamented by all who knew her during the last Years of her Abode at *Virginia*, and was buried at *J—m—s Town*, where her Son erected a superb Marble Monument to her Memory.

F I N I S.

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